

WORD

ON THE STREET



VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1

JUNE 2023

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FROM THE MANAGER'S DESK



As our spring and summer maintenance & construction season is upon us, we have all hands on deck prepping and doing

any necessary preventative maintenance to keep our upcoming operations running smoothly. One project that is front and center for not only this year, but the 2024 year as well is Dixie Highway. Our Engineering Department has worked diligently to coordinate this multiple-year project for one of our highly used Primary roads. Great accomplishment! Our Maintenance Department is prepped to address all seasonal maintenance activities, but the highlight of this season is a new shoulder machine that we received and are currently using to address the high shoulder

removal needs Countywide. Efficiency will be greatly improved when completing this important maintenance task. As we continue to upgrade equipment and make operations more efficient, it still would not be possible without the hardworking group of individuals we have here at SCRC and the continued teamwork we display daily.

With new equipment and procedures also comes with training and making sure our employees are proceeding with safety first in mind. Our Safety Department has done a wonderful job in networking with other road commissions and attending safety seminars to keep our safety standards current and achievable. Communication is another huge piece of our puzzle, and the efforts of our Administrative Department taking calls from our customers and relaying this information to our foremen through service requests is of great importance to ensure we are aware of any issues on the road our customers may come across.

FOREMAN'S MEETING



Top (From Left): Todd Ferguson, Chris Burke, Dennis Borchard, Sean Reinig, Dan Armentrout.
Bottom (From Left): Nick Hornak, Jason Brown, Paul Gohs, Rob Hudec, Dan Medina.

MAINTENANCE

I can also say that I am beyond pleased with placing continuous emphasis on building and holding strong relationships with the twenty-seven townships we serve. Every year, we hold Township meetings for our four districts. Last year we held these meetings virtually due to COVID-19 concerns, and this year it was quite refreshing to be able to branch out and hold in-person meetings again, with the option of joining remotely. A few of our Townships were gracious enough to host these meetings at their Township Halls, and the turnouts were just awesome. These meetings are so important to not only us here at SCRC but the township officials as well. It gives us an opportunity to share projects completed, future projects, funding options, and any other concerns or questions that want to be addressed by the township officials. We were even lucky enough to have some of our very talented staff from our Tech Communication Department put together a slideshow presentation to have at each of our district meetings to better display accomplishments within these townships and give insight into other options available going forward, such as special assessment projects. New equipment purchased and used throughout these townships is another thing we displayed within our presentation, which gave Township officials a closer insight as to how we continue to upgrade our fleet, making operations more efficient so we can have roads open and functional to our customers in a timelier manner.

I would like to say THANK YOU to the entire SCRC team that continues to flourish and put in their hard work, day in and day out. Looking forward to a great construction season! Have a safe Summer, everyone!

***Dennis Borchard,
Managing Director***

2023 Spring & Summer Update

Coming out of winter, we had the plan to address many road maintenance projects as well as complete prep work ahead of some upcoming scheduled construction projects. Here is an example of what's involved in prep work ahead of a scheduled 2024 Dixie Highway Mill & Resurface Project.



DIXIE HWY PREP

When coordinating all projects, our goal is as follows:

1. Safety first for all customers and employees.
2. Early Scoping of project limits, determining what repairs are necessary and needed, have an estimated timeline of project duration.
3. Scoping determined that 10 X-Culverts needed to be removed & replaced between the project boundaries of Junction & Willard Rd on Dixie Hwy.

4. The goal is to be in and out ASAP, minimizing the traveling impact on our customers as much as possible.

5. Communication with all prior to the project start date is important. Communication with Township Supervisors, emergency first responders, local schools, and local businesses. Project information was placed on our Facebook page. Message Boards were also implemented,

displaying project information, and placed on each end of the project boundaries two weeks prior to the project start date.

6. Coordination of needed materials, pipe, sand, stone, asphalt, etc., was completed in a timely manner.

7. Coordination of equipment and employees, maximizing all resources available.

8. Always prepare to adjust quickly as unknown issues develop throughout the duration of the project. Example: 3 days prior to the project start date,

2 of the 3 excavators we had scheduled to use for this project broke down. One of the machines we were able to get repaired prior to the start date, the other would not be available. We were able to coordinate a Demo Excavator from one of our vendors for the duration of the project. This allowed us to carry on as scheduled with no added cost.

9. The game plan was to have 3 crew working within the project limits. One excavator braking 10" Concrete. Two crews followed in two different locations removing existing roadway and x-culverts, setting grade, placing new culverts and filling in compacting new material so it was ready to be paved by our paving crew. Once we had 2 locations completed, the concrete breaking crew became the asphalt crew.

10. The project scoping and mapping was completed by our Engineering and Tech Communication Departments. The traffic control and x-culvert removal and replacement work was completed by our Sign Shop and our Maintenance Department. The continued communication with all was completed by our Administrative Department. This project was completed in six working days. Everyone did an outstanding job in making this project run smoothly and efficiently from start to finish.

Great dedication by all, job well done!

I'd also like to talk a little about our big summer project for the 2023 season. This year we have 125 miles scheduled for Chip Seal, 50 miles of Primary roads will be completed in District 3 and

75 miles of Local roads will be completed Countywide.

26 Miles of hauling and placing 23A modified natural gravel, approximately 35,500 tons and 8 miles of 23A Limestone, and approximately 8,000 tons will be placed in Districts 2, 3, and 4.



SHOULDER MACHINE

Our new shoulder machine is here and has been in operation since May 9, 2023. Our goal is to address any of our scheduled chip seal routes that need the high shoulders removed. Then we plan to concentrate on completing townships or sections, limiting mobilization, and jumping around. This machine will help us address a high shoulder issue that we've had countywide for years. We have been addressing this activity in recent years, but the need to improve efficiency is something we know we must improve. This Shoulder Machine is the answer. Ditching year-round as weather permits is now the norm. Trucking when necessary but taking advantage of working from the field side, needing only an excavator operator when doing so. There's no doubt these two activities of removing high shoulders and ditching will help

need for about 30% needing to be cleaned. Cleaning is scheduled and completed by our Fixed Maintenance Department.

I would like to Thank the entire SCRC TEAM. No matter your part, big or small, your input and actions are important in keeping the SCRC operating at a high level. Just what our customers deserve!

Think Safety First and enjoy the coming warm weather.

*Dan Medina,
Director of Maintenance*

TECH COMMUNICATION

We returned from the 2023 County Road Association (CRA) Highway Conference this year with two Impress awards and a People's Choice Award. The Technology and Communications department worked together to prepare two projects for submissions that showcase our adaptability and use of innovative technologies.

In our first submission, we share our Drone Inventory Bulk Materials process to showcase our efficiency and cost savings in the operations category. Our staff acquired a drone, software, and their Part 107 FFA (Federal Aviation Administration) license to

perform this task. The improved process has allowed us to send a drone up to measure and inventory our bulk material, which is a much safer alternative than past practices.

The second submission was our "Plow Locator" application in the communications category. SCRC maintains over 1800 miles of road with a snow removal fleet of 40+ vehicles during a winter weather event. A typical storm lately can result in our fleet covering 10,000 miles or more on the first day of the storm. Not only did we want to share that our fleet was out working, but we wanted to provide which roads had been

visited during an event. We contacted Etch GIS, who provided an interactive map solution to meet our need to share AVL with the general public and our internal staff.

The Plow Locator Application submission even received the #1 People's Choice Award! This is very exciting as it truly shows the power of testing and implementing new technologies to make SCRC better communicators and more efficient.

*Mariah Kelly,
GIS Analyst*



**DENNIS BORCHARD
& STEVE GRADOWSKI**

Photo Courtesy of the County Road Association of Michigan

ENGINEERING

Construction season 2023 is underway in Saginaw County. The primary and local road systems will see several upgrades throughout the county.

We've created a table to summarize our 2023 road projects. Many of these projects also include drainage improvements, curb & gutter, driveway approach and shoulder work as well.

SCRC's focus is to manage these roadways safely and efficiently through proper improvements and maintenance. To ensure the safety of road workers and road users - always slow down, follow all posted signs, and be alert. Work zone safety is everyone's responsibility!

*Dan Armentrout,
Deputy Managing Director/
Director of Engineering*

*Tim Brown,
Project Manager*

*Haley Christensen,
Permit Officer*

*Nick Hornak,
Engineering Assistant*

**DIXIE HWY
RR CROSSING**



**METZGER
CT**



**S FORDNEY RD
BRIDGE**

**CONCRETE
PATCHES**

2023 Road Projects

Township	Road	Limits	Project Scope
Birch Run	Willard	Gera to Tuscola	HMA Paving - Local Project
Blumfield	Old Holland / Reinbold	Cool Creek, East of S Reimer	Structure Replacement - Local Project
Bridgeport	Dixie Hwy	Fort to Hess	Mill and Fill - Federal Funds
Bridgeport	Prospect	Dixie to Williamson	Mill and Fill - Local Project
Bridgeport	Bearcat	Dixie to Baker	Mill and Fill - Local Project
Brant	S Hemlock	S Branch of Bad River, Between Brant & Marion	Super Structure Bridge Replacement - Federal Funds
Buena Vista	Hess	Towerline to Ruff	Crush, Shape, HMA Paving - MTF Funds
Buena Vista	Outer	Perkins to 675 Overpass	HMA Overlay - Federal Urban Funds
Carrollton	Michigan	Weiss to Shattuck	Mill and Fill - Federal Urban Funds
Carrollton	Lynn	Winter to Reserve	Crush, Shape, HMA Paving - Local Project
Carrollton	Pioneer	Bauer to Church	Crush, Shape, HMA Paving - Local Project
Frankenmuth	Maple	King to Bradley	Rubblize Concrete, Add Gravel, HMA Paving - Local Project
Fremont	S Fordney	Over Beaver Creek, Between Grabowski and Baumgartner	Super Structure Bridge Replacement - Federal Funds
Kochville	Kochville	Davis to Bay (M84)	Guardrail and Bank Stabilization - FEMA
Kochville	Liberty	Davis to Michigan	HMA Overlay - Local Project
Thomas	Geddes	Graham to Gleaner	Mill and Fill - State Grant
Saginaw	Hemmeter	State to McCarty	Mill and Fill - Federal Urban Funds
Saginaw	Metzger	West off Wieneke	Crush, Shape, HMA Paving - Local Project
Spaulding	Washington	Sheridan to City Limit	HMA Overlay - Local Project
Zilwaukee	Kochville	Westervelt to Melbourne	HMA Overlay - MTF Funds
Zilwaukee	Melbourne	Kochville to North	HMA Overlay - County Park Funds
Saginaw, Carrollton, & Bridgeport	Multiple Locations	Concrete Patches	Remove and Replace Concrete

2023 MDOT Local Grade Railroad Crossing Grant Program

Township	Road	Limits	Railroad
Bridgeport	Dixie Hwy	Elmport & Prospect	Lake State Railway Company
Bridgeport	Prospect	Dixie Hwy & Williamson	Lake State Railway Company
Saginaw	McCarty	Hemmeter & Center	Lake State Railway Company
Saginaw	Hemmeter	Shattuck & McCarty	Lake State Railway Company
Frankenmuth	Reese	Bradley & King	Huron & Eastern Railway

SAFETY

Saginaw County Road Commission is committed to providing a safe and healthy work environment by protecting employees from workplace hazards. A new Employee Services Page has been rolled out on our website and allows instant access to submit safety suggestions and near miss reports, view Job Safety Analysis (JSA), and an ebinder of Safety Data Sheets (SDS), just to name a few.

The 'Safety Suggestion & Near Miss' form provides the Road Commission with an

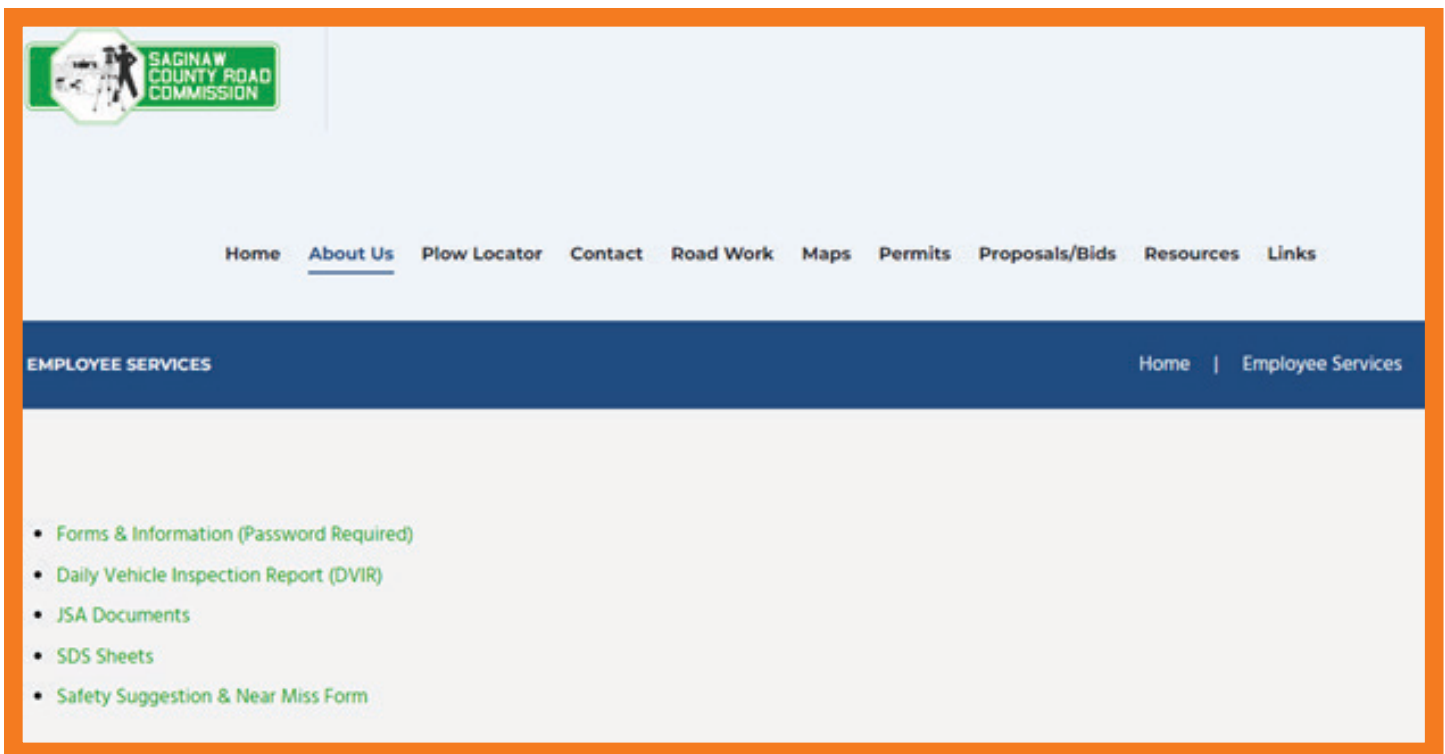
opportunity to identify hazards or weaknesses in their risk management programs and correct them to prevent future incidents. Regardless of level, location, or job description, each employee has a role in creating and maintaining an injury-free workplace. The reporting system will not result in disciplinary action of the reporter and, if desired, the reporter may be anonymous. Investigation results will allow the Road Commission to educate employees and improve safety systems.

The safety committee meets monthly to ensure safety is always a topic of discussion. Please feel free to reach out to any member of the committee if you have a concern or suggestion.

Safety Officer: *Tim Brown*

Safety Committee: *Zach Chludil, Haley Christensen, Mike Ecker, Glenn Hardy, Rob Hudec, Ben Iliff, Jason Windy, and a rotating District Foreman.*

Employee Services Website Page



FINANCE

Act 51 - Michigan Transportation Fund -

Public Act 51 of 1951 created the Michigan Transportation Fund (MTF), which is the main funding source for most cities, villages, and counties. It defines the formula on how money is distributed to each city, village & county. The money comes from state fuel tax, vehicle registration fees, state general fund and marijuana tax. Of the Act 51 dollars 20% goes to support various state agencies; the other 80% is divided among highways – State Trunkline (39.1%), county roads (39.1%), and municipal streets (21.8%). From there the 39.1% received by Michigan’s 83 counties is broken down based on three primary distribution factors - road miles, population, and registration taxes attributable to the county. Of the three, registration taxes are the most heavily weighted factor, accounting for almost half the basis for distribution. This formula was established in Section 12 of Act 51.

Plus \$10,000 each for county engineer, and adjustments for mileage transferred between jurisdictions. (Source: *MDOT, Bureau of Planning*)

Some MTF distribution factors change infrequently. Population factors change only after each decennial census. Road system mileage changes when roads are built or abandoned. However, formula mileage figures are only adjusted annually after local road agencies submit maps of local road system mileage. Mileage as used in the formula represents linear, or “map” miles. Registration figures change every month based on registration data reported by the Michigan Secretary of State. (Source: *House Fiscal Agency*)

Each year Road Commissions are required to file an ACT 51 report that accurately reflects the revenues and expenditures of all road work and funds by system and conforms with the requirements of Act 51. This report helps to determine the above distribution calculation for the

county and breakdown of revenue received from the MTF.

Township Allocation from SCRC MTF Revenue

Each year SCRC allocates a portion of our MTF revenue to each of our local townships to help offset the costs of road maintenance and/or projects. Every January we take 8.5% of the total Michigan Transportation Funds we received from the prior state fiscal year (Nov-Oct) and breakdown each township by miles and population based on the current US census and determine the allocation dollars each township will receive. Townships are allowed to carry over prior year’s allocation amounts. Carryover is typically limited to no more than the prior two years’ total allocation. The carryover option allows townships to have extra funds to be able to do a larger project they may be planning.

*Lacey Ziola,
Director of Finance & Benefits*

MTF Distribution to County Road Commissions Distributions assuming \$1.0 billion MTF

Distribution Factors		
1.00%	By Snow Formula	\$ 10,000,000.00
9.90%	By Urban Road Mileage, For Urban Primary and Local Roads	\$ 99,100,000.00
47.90%	By Resident Vehicle Registrations, For Primary Roads	\$ 479,000,000.00
6.39%	By Primary Road Mileage, For Primary Roads	\$ 63,900,000.00
9.58%	1/83 Equally, For Primary Roads	\$ 95,800,000.00
16.41%	By Local-Road Mileage, For Local Roads	\$ 164,100,000.00
8.84%	By Rural Population, For Local Roads	\$ 84,400,000.00

Plus \$10,000 each for county engineer, and adjustments for mileage transferred between jurisdictions. *Source: MDOT, Bureau of Planning.*

NEW HIRES

Lacey Ziola

Director of Finance

Christopher Odle

Truck Driver, District 6

Sean Reinig

New District 4 Foreman

Joshua Corrin

Janitor / Truck Driver, District 2

Joshua Sparling

Truck Driver, District 1

Mitchell Blue

Truck Driver, District 6



LIMESTONE APPLICATION



ROAD PATCHING



HYDRA HOE



TILE JETTING



BRUSH MOWING



BRINE

RETIREES

Mike Girard

*Director of Finance,
16 years of service*

Paul Gohs

*District 3 Foreman,
18 years of service*

Matt Duesning

*Grader Operator - District 4,
33 years of service*

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:

Monday—Thursday 6:00 A.M.—4:00 P.M.

****CLOSED FRIDAY****

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS:

Monday—Friday
7:00 A.M.—3:30 P.M.

COMMISSIONERS

Todd Hare - Chairperson
Richard H. Crannell, P.E. - Vice-Chairperson
John D. Sangster - Member
Deb Kestner - Member

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Dennis L. Borchard

SCRC ANNIVERSARIES

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARY DATES

EMPLOYEE	YEARS OF SERVICE
James Lehmen	20
Mike Wysko	20
Joseph St. Charles	10
Jason Windy	10
William Reinbolt	10
Gregory O'Toole	5
Mitchell Weaver	5
Mariah Kelly	5
Sean Reinig	5
Chase Beyersdorf	5
Lyle Rottiers	5
Glenn Hardy	5
Jeffery Sweers	1

UPCOMING DATES

- 06/18 Father's Day
- 07/04 Independence Day **
- 09/04 Labor Day **
- 10/31 Halloween
- 11/05 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 11/11 Veterans Day **
- 11/23 Thanksgiving **
- 11/24 Day After Thanksgiving **

**** SCRC offices and facilities are closed ****

**Happy
Construction
Season!**

Saginaw County Road Commission maintains over 1,849 miles of roads. While some local road projects are able to be done by cost-sharing with townships, the majority of the maintenance is the Saginaw County Road Commission's responsibility.

There are over 200 bridges to maintain along with smaller tributaries and ditches adding more than 2,800 culverts to the road system. The list continues to grow as new roads are built to meet the needs of our ever changing and expanding community.

Maintaining the county road system is no easy task. However, every Saginaw County Road Commission employee is committed to building and maintaining a quality road system that will last for generations to come. We are proud to be a part of and to serve the Saginaw County Community.